Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY IMMEDIATE	
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN	
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS	
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO	
AMEMBASSY DAKAR	
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AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA	
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SUBJECT: NIAMEY CONFERENCE ON URANIUM EXPLOITATION AND DEVELOPMENT	
REF: (A) STATE 211707, (B) NIAMEY 3570, (C) STATE 223824, (D) STATE 224246, (E) NIAMEY 3747	
FOR AMBASSADOR FROM AF BLAKE	
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PARIS FOR MELONE

- 1. APPRECIATE YOUR CLARIFICATION OF STATUS GON'S INVITA-TION TO IBRD REPRESENTATIVE TO ATTEND CONFERENCE. WE HAVE INFORMALLY PASSED THIS INFORMATION TO WORLD BANK.
- 2. WE HAVE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED YOUR SUGGESTED REASONS WHY IT MIGHT BE BETTER NOT TO RAISE SUBJECT OF NIGERIEN INITIATIVE WITH GON AT THIS TIME, BUT RATHER TO LET ESSO FOR THE MOMENT FIELD THE INITIATIVE ON ITS OWN. OUR ONLY PROBLEM WITH YOUR RATIONALE IS THAT THE GON HAS IN FACT ALREADY MADE THE LINKAGE. WHICH WE CONSIDER UNWELCOME. BETWEEN ACTIVITIES OF FOREIGN PRIVATE INVESTORS IN URANIUM AND FOREIGN GOVERNMENT DONORS. THIS WAS DONE IN MINISTER OF MINES LETTER TO ESSO EASTERN AND PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE'S INTENT TO MAKE THE LINKAGE WAS CONFIRMED BY EMBASSY (REF B). CONSEQUENTLY WE STILL BELIEVE BEST COURSE IS TO RAISE SUBJECT WITH GON BEFORE IT RAISES SUB-JECT WITH COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES, AND BEFORE GON'S POSI-TION BECOMES RIGID. THEREFORE WISH YOU TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IMPENDING MEETING WITH PRESIDENT TO SET FORTH OUR VIEWS AS EXPRESSED PARA 5 REF D. AGREE IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR YOU TO MAKE ADDITIONAL POINTS SUGGESTED PARA 4 REF E.
- 3. ACCORDING ESSO EASTERN, JOHN BACKUS SHOULD ARRIVE NIAMEY SEPTEMBER 23.
- 4. AID CONCURS. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

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